



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

Received & Inspected
IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO OUR FILE
M-00011530,
CaseID 1163714
SEP 30 2010

FCC Mail Room

September 23, 2010

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A306
Washington, D.C. 20554

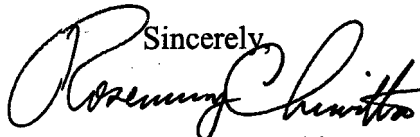
Karen Majcher, Vice President
Universal Service Administrative Co.
2000 L Street N.W. Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: State Certification of Rural Carriers for Federal Universal Service High Cost
Support For January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011
In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Secretary Dortch and Vice President Majcher:

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 54.316 of the Code of Federal Regulations, 47 C.F.R. § 54.316, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PaPUC) hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company that the PaPUC has reviewed the comparability of Verizon Pa's and Verizon North's residential rates in their rural areas, and hereby certifies that the residential rates are reasonably comparable to the nationwide urban rates for purposes of section 254(b)(3) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. 47 U.S.C. § 254(b)(3). In making this certification, Pennsylvania is relying upon the Safe Harbor provision of section 54.316(b) as the residential rates in Verizon PA's and Verizon North's rural areas are below the nationwide urban rate benchmark of \$36.52 per Table 1.13 of the FCC's *Reference Book* released in 2008. Attached, please find a sworn affidavit from the President of Verizon Pennsylvania, Inc. attesting to the rates of Verizon PA and Verizon North.

Please time stamp the extra copy of this filing and return it to Heidi Wushinske, Assistant Counsel, in the enclosed stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

Attachment

cc: Heidi Wushinske, Assistant Counsel
Gale Y. Given, Verizon Pennsylvania, Inc.

No. of Copies rec'd 0+3
List ABCDE

Gale Y. Given
President
Verizon Pennsylvania



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Philadelphia, PA 19103

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August 24, 2010

Kathryn G. Sophy
Law Bureau
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 3265
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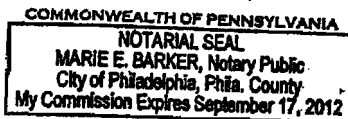
**Re: Verizon's Rate Comparability Review per the FCC's Rate Comparability
Rules for Non-Rural Carriers, CC Docket No. 96-45**

I hereby verify under oath that the rates shown in the attached spreadsheet were the true and correct residence local rates in effect for Verizon Pennsylvania and Verizon North in Density Cell 4 on October 15, 2009.

Verizon Pennsylvania
President

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of August 2010

My Commission Expires: *September 17, 2012*



Attachment

Rate Comparison related to Section 54.316 of the Code of Federal Regulations

§54.316 - Rate comparability review and certification for areas served by non-rural carriers

b) Safe Harbor - For the purposes of its certification, a state may presume that the residential rates in rural areas served by non-rural incumbent local exchange carriers are reasonably comparable to urban rates nationwide if the rates are below the nationwide urban rate benchmark.

Nationwide urban rate benchmark = **\$36.52** per Table 1.13 of the FCC's 2008 *Reference Book of Rates, Price Indices, and Household Expenditures for Telephone Service*

Verizon's Residence Rates in Rural Areas as of Oct. 15, 2009

Residential Rates for Local Service	Verizon PA - Cell 4			Verizon North - Cell 4		
Usage Rate Group	<u>A</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>
Dial Tone Line	\$8.27	\$8.27	\$8.27	\$8.27	\$8.27	\$8.27
Local Area Unlimited Usage Option	\$3.82	\$5.22	\$6.87	\$5.96	\$7.19	\$8.24
Monthly Charge for Flat-Rate Service	\$12.09	\$13.49	\$15.14	\$14.23	\$15.46	\$16.51
Federal Subscriber Line Charge	\$5.89	\$5.89	\$5.89	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50
Federal Universal Service Fund Surcharge	\$0.72	\$0.72	\$0.72	\$0.80	\$0.80	\$0.80
911 Surcharge (varies by county; range = \$1.00 to \$1.50)	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25
Pennsylvania Relay Surcharge	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08
Federal Tax	\$0.60	\$0.64	\$0.69	\$0.69	\$0.72	\$0.75
Surcharges and Taxes	\$2.65	\$2.69	\$2.74	\$2.82	\$2.85	\$2.88
Total Monthly Charge for Flat-Rate Service	\$20.63	\$22.07	\$23.77	\$23.55	\$24.81	\$25.89

∴ The Safe Harbor provision is applicable because Verizon's rural residence rates for local service, including surcharges and taxes, are less than the nationwide urban rate benchmark.